

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [0014] of the specification starting on page 8, line 13 and ending on page 8, line 20 as follows:

**[0014]** The coating or insert may be optionally provided with a ~~wear-registrant~~ wear-resistant surface. For example, a thin but nevertheless rigid metal plate may be fastened to the surface of the coating or insert pointing into the channel, so that the coating or insert will undergo a uniform inward spring deflection over its entire surface. Such a layer should likewise end flat with the surrounding channel wall. If the coating or insert does not have a solid surface, it may be advantageous for it to drop slightly toward the inside of the channel on its surface pointing into the channel, i.e., to be convex toward the end of the packing in order to facilitate the introduction of the end of the packing touching it.

Please amend paragraph [0030] of the specification starting on page 13, line 8 and ending on page 13, line 14 as follows:

**[0030]** The clamping device for clamping the ends of the packing 2, 3 is formed by a clamping body 10 arranged in the channel 6 combined with channel walls defining the channel. The channel walls are the channel walls 4 and 5 and another channel wall 9, which form an opposite surface each for the clamping body 10. The clamping body 10 is supported directly on these channels walls 4, 5 and 9, which enclose the channel 6 between them. The channel

walls 4 and 9 are formed directly by the cylinder 1 itself. The channel wall 5 ~~[[forms]]~~ is formed  
by a filler 8, which is firmly, i.e., nonmovably connected, e.g., screwed to the cylinder 1.